

## **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** March 16, 2006

**CALLED TO ORDER:** 5:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNED:** 6:20 p.m.

### **ATTENDANCE**

#### ATTENDING MEMBERS

Lonnell Conley, Chairman  
Patrice Abdualah  
Jim Bradford  
Ginny Cain  
Scott Keller  
Dane Mahern  
Angela Mansfield

#### ABSENT MEMBERS

Mary Moriarty Adams  
Michael Speedy

### **AGENDA**

PROPOSAL NO. 137, 2006 - authorizes a hotel loading zone, a vehicle loading zone and a taxi zone for the Conrad Hotel and changes parking restrictions in the vicinity (Districts 15 and 19)  
“Do Pass”

Vote: 8-0

PROPOSAL NO. 138, 2006 - approves an appropriation of \$2,000,000 in the 2006 Budget of the Department of Public Works, Engineering Division (Transportation General Fund) to design a downtown Cultural Trail to promote education, commerce, tourism and fitness, funded by a grant from the Central Indiana Community Foundation  
“Do Pass”

Vote: 8-0

**Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Presentation- Dave Forsell**

## PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

The Public Works Committee of the City-County Council met on Thursday, March 16, 2006. Chair Lonnell Conley called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with the following members present: Patrice Abdullah, Jim Bradford, Dane Mahern, Scott Keller, Ginny Cain and Angela Mansfield. Absent were Mary Moriarty Adams, and Michael Speedy

PROPOSAL NO. 137, 2006 - authorizes a hotel loading zone, a vehicle loading zone and a taxi zone for the Conrad Hotel and changes parking restrictions in the vicinity (Districts 15 and 19)

Nathan Sheets, Department of Public Works (DPW), stated that this ordinance would allow DPW to establish a vehicle loading zone and taxi zone near the intersection of Illinois Street and Washington Street. He said that this ordinance would remove some parking restrictions that are in existence, and then there will be a subsequent board meeting that will establish those loading zones in and around the area.

Councillor Abdullah stated that he would like to push for this ordinance to pass. He stated that he would like to see an outlined layout of the taxi zone and the loading zone. Councillor Abdullah stated that he trusts that the board would provide a user-friendly development in that area.

Councillor Bradford asked if there were any parking meters that were being removed in this development. Mr. Sheets answered in the negative. He added that during the construction of the Conrad Hotel there were parking meters on Washington Street that were removed. This same parking situation will remain, with the exception of the existing vehicle loading zone at that location. This zone will change to a hotel loading zone and a taxi-loading zone.

Greg Zubeck, Attorney with offices at 151 North Delaware, stated that he represents the Two North Meridian Company, which is the owner of buildings on the block along Washington Street where the new hotel is located. Mr. Zubeck stated that there is a concern of how these loading zones would impact the loading zone that services the buildings of the Two North Meridian Company. He said that the issue is whether or not the Two North Meridian would lose its loading space with the hotel and taxi load zone only. Mr. Zubeck stated that there should be a provision to this ordinance that would allow the signage to read "loading zone" and be used for the hotel and also the business tenants of the Two North Meridian building, instead of hotel loading zone strictly for the hotel. Nathan Sheets stated that this loading zone will be able to be used by the business tenants, as well as the hotel. He said that the signs would indicate that the loading zone is in effect 24 hours a day every day of the week.

John Goodman, Manager of Two North Meridian, stated that they should have been given some type of notice that this change was going to occur and did not receive any notice. Councillor Bradford stated that Indianapolis Downtown Inc. (IDI) is paid to maintain the Downtown Chambers of Commerce and notify the property owners of changes throughout downtown.

Barbara Lawrence, Indianapolis Bond Bank, stated that the Conrad has been involved and engaged in the negotiation of this loading zone issue. The Conrad has been really cooperative with everyone.

Councillor Bradford moved, seconded by Councillor Cain, to send Proposal No. 137, 2006 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 138, 2006 - approves an appropriation of \$2,000,000 in the 2006 Budget of the Department of Public Works, Engineering Division (Transportation General Fund) to design a downtown Cultural Trail to promote education, commerce, tourism and fitness, funded by a grant from the Central Indiana Community Foundation

Lori Miser, DPW, stated this proposal involves a public/private partnership that was initiated by the Central Indiana Community Foundation and they are going to be paying for two-thirds of the project. She stated that the Indianapolis Cultural Trail will link all of the greenways throughout the region. She also explained that the design of the Cultural Trail will occur over the next 6 to 8 months. There will be a public information forum to make the public more aware of what is going on.

{Melody Park, Program Manager from RWR Associates, explained the map of the Cultural Trail, which is on file in the Council office.}

Councillor Bradford asked what the total cost is of the project. Ms. Miser stated that the total cost is estimated at \$36 million. Councillor Bradford asked how much money the Federal government is investing in the Cultural Trail. Ms. Miser said that the Federal government is giving approximately \$14 million for this project.

Councillor Bradford stated that there is a levy project that the Federal government is funding for the Broad Ripple area, and wondered if the final phase of the funding is available. James Garrard, the Director of DPW, stated that the funding is available. He said that there should not be any problems unless the core of the funding decides to re-prioritize the projects, which has happened in the past.

Councillor Moriarty Adams moved, seconded by Councillor Mahern, to send Proposal No. 138, 2006 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

### **Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Presentation- Dave Forsell**

Dave Forsell, Keep Indianapolis Beautiful (KIB), stated that KIB is a private, charitable, non-profit organization and has been in existence for 30 years. He said that the KIB mission statement is uniting people, beautifying the city, improving the environment, and fostering pride.

{Mr. Forsell explained the KIB presentation, which on file in the Council office.}

Some key points are:

- For every dollar that the City invests in the KIB contract, KIB is able to leverage that with ten private dollars.
- Some programs that are in the contract are neighborhood revitalization activities, education and management of volunteer recycling issues, and litter clean ups.
- Operation My Town is fostering a sense of ownership, creating an investment, and developing a responsibility in the communities.
- The goal of the KIB, which is supported by the City, is to plant 100,000 trees in Indianapolis over the next 10 years.

Councillor Conley stated that he believes that when the neighborhood is kept clean, with the combined efforts of the citizens in that community, crime decreases and the neighbors build a sort of bond.

Councillor Bradford asked what type of trees will be planted. Mr. Forsell stated that the type of trees that will be planted will be mainly canopy trees, along with some other trees. He said that the important thing is that KIB is working closely with Indianapolis Power and Light (IPL) to make sure that they are putting the right trees in the right place.

Councillor Cain asked what the contact information is for KIB. Mr. Forsell stated that the phone number is 317-264-7555, and the website is [www.kibi.org](http://www.kibi.org).

Councillor Abdullah asked if there could be any fruit trees planted around the city. Mr. Forsell answered in the affirmative.

Councillor Mahern asked what plans were in place for working with the Latino community. Mr. Forsell stated that the first step in that direction was to hire Sara Grubb, who is tri-lingual and able to communicate with the Latino community. He stated that they are working with others that are helping with launching a Spanish language website, which will compliment the [www.kibi.org](http://www.kibi.org) website. Mr. Forsell stated that there will be some education instruments available to encourage the Spanish-speaking residents to get more involved.

Councillor Mansfield asked if there was a neighborhood association that would like to get help from KIB, and what avenues they would have to take to start the process. Mr. Forsell stated that there is an application process that would allow neighborhoods to apply for help.

Glenn Pratt, citizen, stated that since the changes in the Barrett Law passed, a lot of the town hall meetings in the different neighborhood have been on a positive rise. He said that the only concern is the drought problem and it should be addressed; and an ordinance should be created in the event of a drought. .

### Conclusion

There being no further business, and upon motion duly made, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

---

Lonnell Conley, Chairman

LC/rjp